ICHIJINSHA
YURIHIME COMICS
KODAMA NAOKO
[COCYTUS]
コダマナオコ

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コキュートス

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IDC
一迅社

ISBN978-4-7580-7296-0
C9979 ¥857E
9784758072960
1929979008574
一迅社
雑誌 50674-53
定価：本体857円＋税

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CONTENTS

プキャームス前編 005
プキャームス後編 027
モラトリアム前編 063
モラトリアム後編 101
モラトリアム -TSUKI SIDE- 121

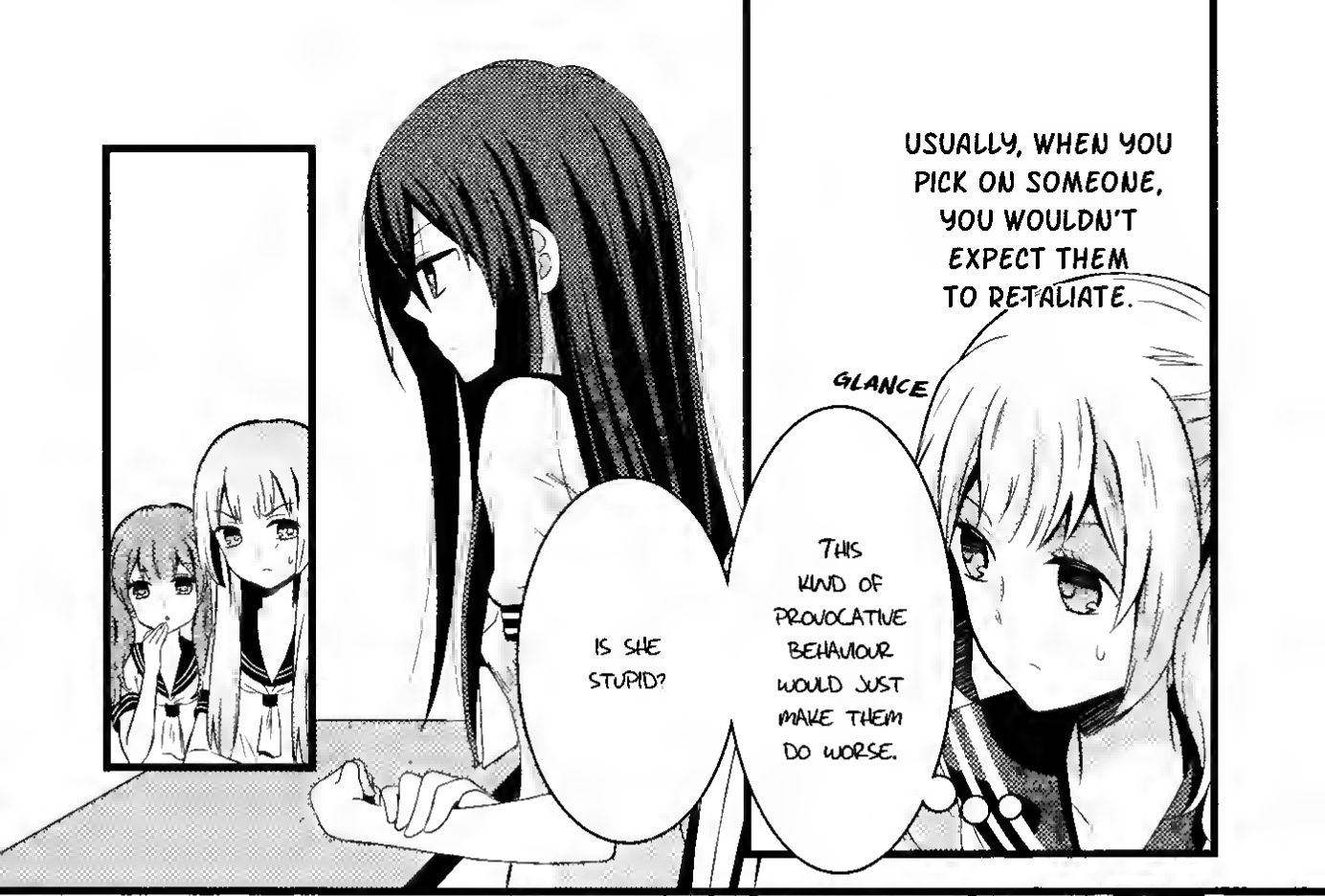
IS THERE ANYONE?
THE LAST ONE IS...THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE, I SUPPOSE.
July 19
Class Representative
*Library Committee Representative
Suzuki Rie
*Health Committee Representative
Yoshiki Takashi
WHISPER

ME~
I THINK KUROSAKI-SAN WOULD BE A GOOD REP.
GIGGLE
GIGGLE
THE-INSTANT WE SAW EACH OTHER,
AH...
THAT'S YOSHIDA FOR YOU. WHAT A DEVIL.

...
HOW ABOUT IT? WILL YOU DO IT?
AH, KUROSAKI.
WE KNEW THAT THERE WAS A CLASSROOM HERESY.
CLATTER
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

ass Representative
Kurosaki
Mineko
nittee Representa
Suzuki Rie
hittee Representative
oshik Takashi
KO
CLACK

SHOCK
THAT WAS SUR-PRISING.


USUALLY, WHEN YOU PICK ON SOMEONE, YOU WOULDN'T EXPECT THEM TO RETALIATE.
GLANCE
THIS KIND OF PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOUR WOULD JUST MAKE THEM DO WORSE.
IS SHE STUPID?

KUROSAKI...
HOW DO YOU READ HER FIRST NAME?

AH.
MINEKO?
*Class Representative
Kurosaki Mineko
*Library Committee Representative
Suzuki Rie

TL/N: KUROsaki miNEKO
(Kuroneko=Black Cat)

COCYTUS

PART 1

WE DON'T WANT TO BE LEFT OUT, SO WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL OF WHAT WE SAY.
LIKING WEIRD THINGS LIKE COMEDIANS AND ANIME IS A NO-NO
SLOW TO RESPOND TO LINE.
NOT BEING ABLE TO READ THE ATMOSPHERE OR UNDERSTAND JOKES IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
NOT BEING INTERESTED IN LOVE
OR BEING TOO POPULAR WITH MEN IS A NO, TOO.
HEY, SHIINA!
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT *GIGANTIC* BENTO BOX?

JUST KIDDING~ YOSHIDA, YOU'RE ANNOYING!
I DON'T WANT TO BE TOLD THAT BY YOU, THOUGH.
EH~
BUT I'M HUNGRY.
KYAHAHA
YOUR FEMININITY WILL DIE!
EEEH! I DON'T WANT THAT!!!
YOU WON'T FIND A BOY-FRIEND!
GEEZ... I'M TELLING YOU, IF YOU KEEP THAT UP...
EEH~
YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL TOO OR YOU'LL GET DUM-PED.
YOU TOO~

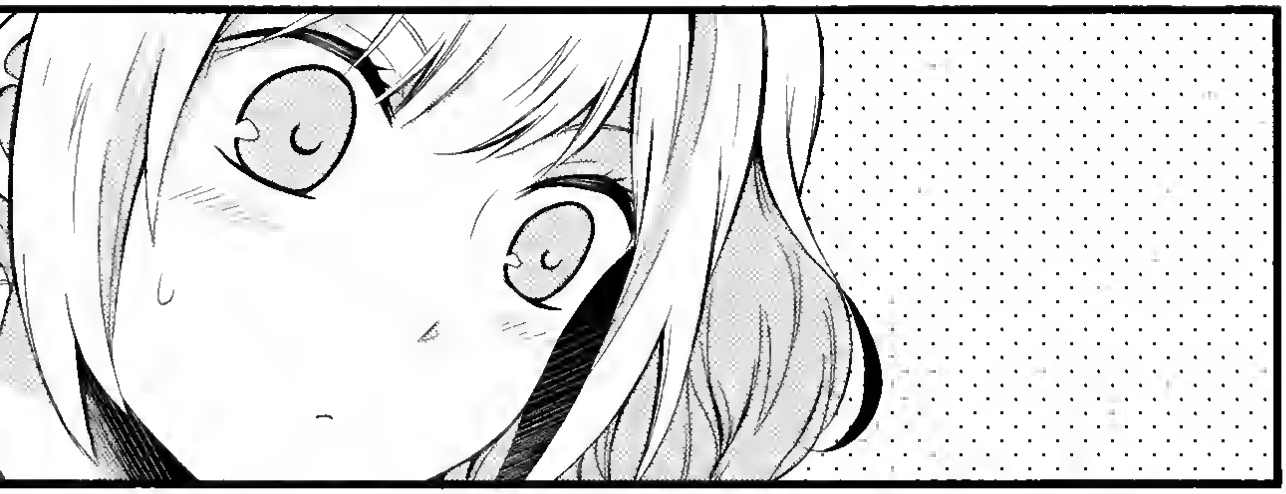
222
I STARTED CALLING HER THAT ON MY OWN.
AH, IT'S KURONEKO-SAN.
SHE'S ALWAYS ALONE. I WONDER IF SHE'S OKAY...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HUH, KURO-SAKI?
SHE PROBABLY DOESN'T WANT TO BE INSIDE BECAUSE SHE'S ALONE.
ISN'T SHE DANGE-ROUS?
I HEARD A RUMOR THAT SHE WORKS PART-TIME IN A PROSTITUTION HOUSE.

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S TRUE OR NOT, BUT...
THIS INDEPENDENT, WILLFUL WOMAN IS REALLY LIKE A CAT.
AH, SHE WOKE UP.
AREN'T THERE A LOT OF OF WEIRD SHOPS IN FRONT OF THE STATION THAT REQUIRE YOU TO GO INSIDE FROM THE BACKDOOR?
EEH? SERIOUSLY? I'LL PASS.
IT SEEMS THAT SHE'S USUALLY SEEN HANGING OUT IN THAT AREA.

SHIINA.
CAN I HAVE A MINUTE?

EEEHHH
KUROSAKI'S DOING THE CLASS REP WORK BY HERSELF AND IT SEEMS TO BE PILING UP. COULD YOU LEND HER A HAND?
BEING ALONE WITH THIS GIRL...
IF I PRETEND THAT WE GET ALONG, IT'LL JUST END, RIGHT?
HURRY. FINISH IT. GO HOME.
UM...
KURONEKO-SAN, CAN YOU LEND ME THE STAPLER?

WAH!
UMM, I'M SORRY!
CRAP! I CALLED HER THAT!
YOUR NAME'S ABBREVIATION,
DOESN'T IT BECOME KURONEKO?
SO I JUST...
...
OH?
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN CALLED THAT.
JUST THE STAPLER?
HERE.



?

IT'S THE FIRST TIME SOMEONE LOOKED AT ME IN THE EYE WITH NO HESITATION.
UM... THANK YOU.

AH.
NO...
WHAT'S WRONG?

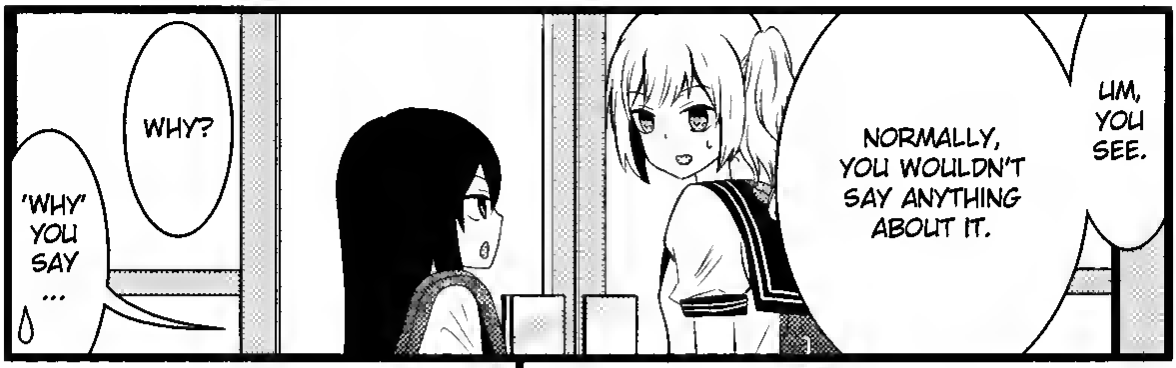
IT DISTURBED ME.

KURO-NEKO-SAN~ SHOW ME YOUR NOTES!
SINCE THEN
I BEGAN TO BE ON SPEAKING TERMS WITH HER, BUT ONLY WHEN THERE'S NO ONE ELSE AROUND.

I LEARNED A FEW THINGS ABOUT HER.
KURONEKO-SAN IS A RETURNEE.
SHE LIVED IN AMERICA UNTIL SHE WAS 6.
THERE WAS A DESERT NEAR MY HOUSE.
AND THERE WERE EVEN SNAKES AND SCORPIONS.
NO WAY!
YOU'RE KIDDING! AMERICA IS A PLACE LIKE THAT!?
IT'S BECAUSE I LIVED IN THE COUNTRYSIDE'S WEST COAST.
NOT ALL CITIES IN AMERICA ARE LIKE NEW YORK.
THIS GIRL WAS MY BEST FRIEND OVER THERE.
HER NAME'S LINDSEY. ISN'T SHE CUTE?
CUTE- I WONDER. I DON'T REALLY KNOW.
I CAN SEE THAT SHE'S A BLONDIE, THOUGH.

UWAH!
HEY!
YOU SHOULD STAY AWAY FROM THAT GIRL.
DON'T YOU FEEL BAD FOR HER? HAHA
IT'S AS IF SHE'S WAITING FOR STD.
GYA HA HA
IDIOT. IF YOU'RE STILL A VIRGIN, EVEN IF SHE DOES HAVE IT, GO FOR IT.
WOW...
AWKWARD.
WELL, I WONDER IF THE RUMOR IS TRUE.
I DON'T WORK IN A PROSTITUTION HOUSE.

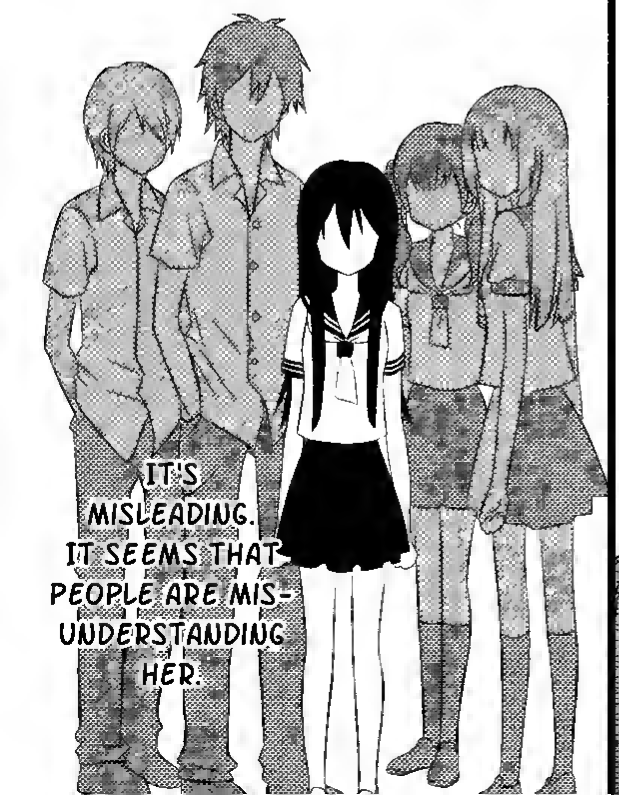
EH...
IF YOU HAVE A PART-TIME AT A COFFEE SHOP IN THE SHOPPING DISTRICT, IT BECOMES A PROSTITUTION HOUSE ALL OF A SUDDEN. IT SEEMED TO HAVE BECOME A TOPIC TO PICK ON.
STRANGE.
AH. THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY WEIRD SHOPS IN THAT AREA...
BUT ISN'T IT DANGEROUS? DOING A PART-TIME AROUND THERE.
IT'S OKAY. I'LL BE FIRED SOON ANYWAY.
EH?
FIRED... WHAT DID YOU DO?
THE MANAGER BLATANTLY FAVORS ONE PART-TIMER.
THAT PERSON IS ACTUALLY THE MANAGER'S LOVER.
HE FAVORED HER BECAUSE SHE'S THE LOVER. IF YOU SAY THAT IT'S UNFAIR, HE'D JUST STARE AT YOU.

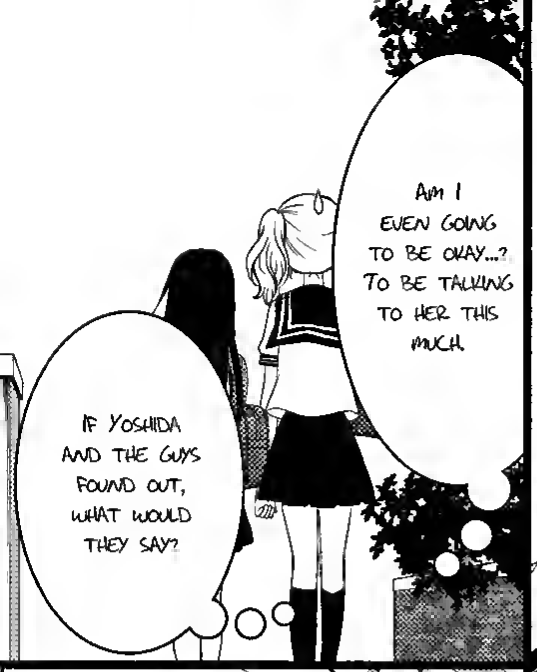


MORE SO, SHE'S THE TYPE WHO CAN'T LIE.

APPARENTLY, KURONEKO-SAN IS QUITE THE CLUMSY PERSON.

PRETENDING NOT TO SEE THINGS OR PICKING THE APPROPRIATE TIME AND PLACE. SHE CAN'T DO THAT.

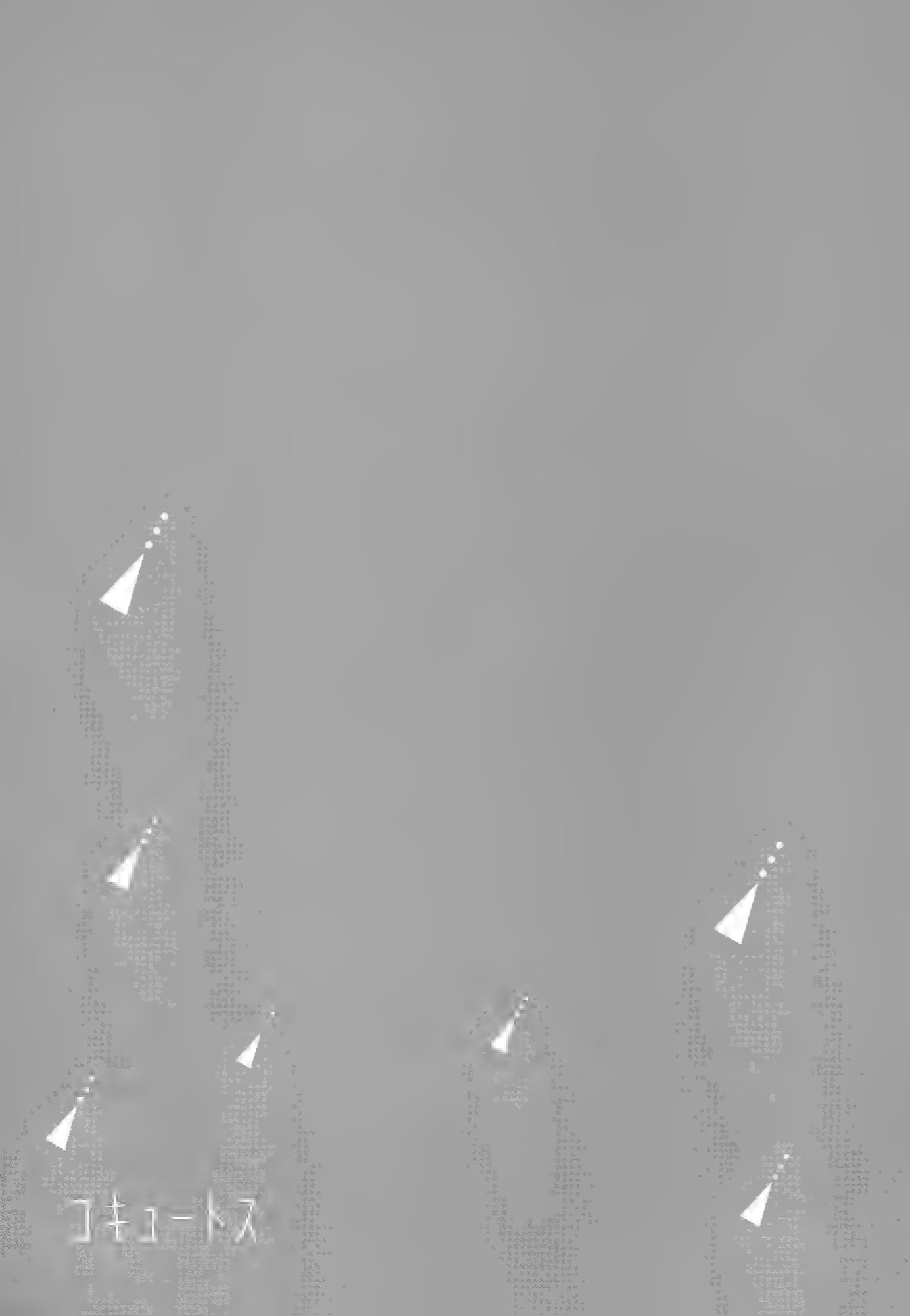




TRUTHFUL TO THE POINT OF FOOLISHNESS.

STUBBORNLY REFUSING TO LET GO OF EVEN THE SMALLEST OF LIES...

WHY AM I EVEN...
WHY WOULD I EVEN RISK IT WHEN IT'S KURONEKO-SAN WHO'S INVOLVED?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[COCYTUS]

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Cocytus ch01

by Kodama Naoko

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